

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-IA-2014-N049]

[FXIA16710900000-145-FF09A30000]

Endangered Species; Marine Mammals; Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species, marine mammals, or both. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) prohibit activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is acquired that allows such activities.

DATES: We must receive comments or requests for documents on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]. We must receive requests for marine mammal permit public hearings, in writing, at the address shown in the ADDRESSES section by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Brenda Tapia, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203; fax (703) 358-2280; or email *DMAFR@fws.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Tapia, (703) 358-2104 (telephone); (703) 358-2280 (fax); *DMAFR@fws.gov* (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Comment Procedures

A. How Do I Request Copies of Applications or Comment on Submitted Applications?

Send your request for copies of applications or comments and materials concerning any of the applications to the contact listed under **ADDRESSES**. Please include the **Federal Register** notice publication date, the PRT-number, and the name of the applicant in your request or submission. We will not consider requests or comments sent to an email or address not listed under **ADDRESSES**. If you provide an email address in your request for copies of applications, we will attempt to respond to your request electronically.

Please make your requests or comments as specific as possible. Please confine your comments to issues for which we seek comments in this notice, and explain the basis for your comments. Include sufficient information with your comments to allow us to authenticate any scientific or commercial data you include.

The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are: (1) Those supported by quantitative information or studies; and (2) Those that include citations to, and analyses of, the applicable laws and regulations. We will not consider or include in our administrative record comments we receive after the close of the comment period (see **DATES**) or comments delivered to an address other than those listed above (see **ADDRESSES**).

B. May I Review Comments Submitted by Others?

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the street address listed under ADDRESSES. The public may review documents and other information applicants have sent in support of the application unless our allowing viewing would violate the Privacy Act or Freedom of Information Act.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

II. Background

To help us carry out our conservation responsibilities for affected species, and in consideration of section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), along with Executive Order 13576, "Delivering an Efficient, Effective, and Accountable Government," and the President's Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies of January 21, 2009 - Transparency and Open Government (74 FR 4685; January 26, 2009), which call on all Federal agencies to promote openness and transparency in Government by disclosing information to the public, we invite public comment on these permit applications before final action is taken. Under the MMPA, you may request a hearing on any MMPA application received.

If you request a hearing, give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Service Director.

III. Permit Applications

A. Endangered Species

Applicant: Columbia University, New York, NY; PRT-24015B

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples derived from captive-held and wild-caught specimens of Bornean orangutan (*Pongo pygmaeus*), Probiscus monkey (*Nasalis larvatus*), and the Sun bear (*Helarctos malayanus*) from Sabah, Malaysia, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA; PRT-24385B

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples derived from captive-born and wild specimens of common chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*) from the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage, Chingola, Zambia, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Northwest Fisheries Science Center Forensics Laboratory, Charleston, SC; PRT-10941B

The applicant requests a permit to export/re-export and import/re-import specimens from any endangered or threatened Proboscidea (elephants) and Cheloniidae (sea turtles) for the purpose of forensics activities which will directly or indirectly enhance the survival of the species in the wild for the purpose of scientific research. In addition, the request includes endangered or threatened FWS-jurisdiction marine mammal species as noted in

Section B of this notice. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the

applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Feld Entertainment, Vienna, VA; PRT-22194B

The applicant requests a permit for the import of two captive-born tigers (*Panthera tigris*)

for the purpose of enhancement of the species. The captive-born animals are being

imported from Spillsby, England, in cooperation with Alexander Lacey.

Applicant: Feld Entertainment, Vienna, VA; PRT-21674B, 21676B, 21677B,

21679B, 21680B, and 21681B

The applicant requests permits to export captive-born tigers (*Panthera tigris*) to

worldwide locations for the purpose of enhancement of the species. The permit numbers

and animals are: 21674B, Janet; 21681B, Tarzan; 21676B, Judy; 21679B, Taba; 21677B,

Napolean; and 21680B, Tabata. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the

applicant over a 3-year period.

Multiple Applicants

The following applicants each request a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one

male bontebok (Damaliscus pygargus pygargus) culled from a captive herd maintained

under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of

enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Wesley Reeves, Fulshear, TX; PRT-29286B

Applicant: Joan Manasse, Cheyenne, WY; PRT-29821B

B. Endangered Marine Mammals and Marine Mammals

Applicant: Northwest Fisheries Science Center Forensics Laboratory, Charleston,

SC; PRT-10941B

The applicant requests a permit to export/re-export and import/re-import specimens from

any endangered or threatened FWS-jurisdiction marine mammal species, including

species from Sirenia (Trichechus manatus, T. senegalensis, T. inunguis, and Dugong

dugon), walrus (Odobenus rosmarus), marine otters (Lontra felina), sea otters (Enhydra

lutris), and polar bears (Ursus maritimus) for the purpose of forensics activities which

will directly or indirectly enhance the survival of the species in the wild for the purpose

of scientific research. In addition, the request includes endangered or threatened

specimens from Proboscidea and Cheloniidae as noted in Section A of this notice. This

notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Concurrent with publishing this notice in the **Federal Register**, we are forwarding copies

of the above applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of

Scientific Advisors for their review.

Brenda Tapia,

Program Analyst/Data Administrator,

Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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